

San Marino, Huntington Library, HM 00268

Description: ff. 158 - Bound, s. XVIII, in English gold-tooled brown calf; rebaked, original spine laid down. The volume was resewn after coming to the Huntington, probably sometime in the 1930s, to restore the contents to their proper sequence; the quires had formerly been altered in order to bring a decorated leaf to the front to hide the defective beginning of the volume. - Three silver swans with gold crowns as collars (but no chains) in the border of f. 100v may be a badge of the first owner: the house of Bohun is known to have used this badge, as well as the Lancastrian royal line after the marriage of Henry IV to Mary de Bohun (1380); see A. R. Wagner, "The Swan Badge and the Swan Knight," *Archaeologia* 97 (1959) 127-38 and plates. Possibly in the collection formed by James Sotheby in the seventeenth century. Armorial bookplate of C. W. H. Sotheby on the front pastedown; sale of Col. H. G. Sotheby, Sotheby's, 24 July 1924, lot 24 with plate of f. 109v to A. S. W. Rosenbach. Precise source and date of acquisition by Henry E. Huntington unknown. - C. W. Dutschke with the assistance of R. H. Rouse et al., *Guide to Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Huntington Library* (San Marino, 1989). De Ricci, 65. Aspects of Medieval England, n. 30 open at f. 96, and reproduction of f. 3 on the cover of the exhibition catalogue. Scott, *Later Gothic Manuscripts* (forthcoming).

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 0

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/HM00268_43

Language: English *Country:* England *Century:* 15th

Gallery of Images for this Manuscript: http://dpg.lib.berkeley.edu/webdb/dsheh/heh_brif?CallNumber=HM+268

Part 1: ff. 1-158v

Description: - Parchment - 293 x 412 mm - 4 quires missing at the beginning (of which the second is evidently Sloane 2452) 18(-4, 5) 28(-4, 5) 3-48 1 quire missing here 58(-4, 5) 6-78 88(-4, 5) 9-118 128(-4, 5) 13-148 1 quire missing here 158(-4, 5) 168(-2, 7) 178(-2, 7) 188 198(-2 through 7) 20-228 238(-2 through 7) 248(-2 through 7) 4 quires missing at the end. Catchword in a noting script in lower right margin of f. 20v; tops of letters are visible on ff. 146v and possibly on 154v. Signatures in lower right margin are an arabic 2 on ff. 141 and 142 (leaves 3 and 4 of quire 21), an arabic 4 on f. 155 (leaf 1 of quire 23), and an arabic 5 followed by a roman i on f. 157 (leaf 1 of quire 24); on f. 87 (leaf 1 of quire 13) in the lower left margin the top of a red paragraph mark. At the top of f. 38v (leaf 4 of quire 6) is "secundo quaterno" in a contemporary noting hand. 2 columns of 39 lines, with five spaced 7-line stanzas in each column, ruled in ink with top and bottom 2 lines full across; slash prick marks occasionally visible in upper and lower margins.

Country: England

Region:

Assigned Date: s. XV^{med}

Dated by scribe: No

Document: No

Script: Anglicana formata

Cardinal point:

City:

Searchable Date Range: 1440 - 1460

Inscribed Date:

Number of Scribes:

Figurative Decoration: Fifty-six miniatures, the width of one column, but varying in height from 53-62 mm. (on ff. 3, 14, 17v, 27v) where they have taken the space of one stanza, or from 96-123 mm. (the largest on f. 112) where they occupy the space of two stanzas; enclosed by a narrow gold frame; a sequence of 5 miniatures (ff. 17v, 18, 19v, 23, 24v) is numbered 2-6 in contemporary arabic numerals, the last underlying the border decoration. The miniatures are closely related to those of London, Brit. Lib., Harley 2278, the probable dedication copy of Lydgate's *Lives of St. Edmund and Fremund* presented to Henry VI in 1433; see K. L. Scott, "Lydgate's *Lives of Saints Edmund and Fremund*: A Newly-Located Manuscript in Arundel Castle," *Viator* 13 (1982) 335-66, especially p. 360, n. 80. Sketches in the margins for six of the miniatures. Leaves with miniatures, beginning the chapters, with bracket borders in many styles: brightly colored acanthus leaves, geranium leaves, pears, pinecones, interlaced branches and gold motifs. Opening initials, usually 4-line (but possibly 5- to 2-line) in white highlighted pink or blue on gold grounds. The space of one stanza reserved for the strapwork initials of the rubric of each "Lenvoye"; some have been filled in, perhaps in a contemporary hand (e.g. ff. 43 and 79) and others may be later, such as the painted-gold and blue elaborate cadel initials of "Verba Lucrece" on f. 50v; on f. 49v, a scene of a jester attacking a lion. Cadel-like flourishes on the ascenders of some letters on the top line, especially fine on ff. 78v-79, in which the opening initials of the 4 stanzas depict a merman playing a horn and a mermaid nursing fish; a knight playing the bagpipes for another man; a man on his knees before a seated figure (woman? confessor?); a scroll with the legend "O Maria flos virg[inum]."

Notes: Corrections in ink (e.g., ff. 55v, 56, 67) and lead (e.g. ff. 146v, 148v, 151); "examinatus" in ink in the center of the lower margin, on ff. 42v (end of quire 6), 146v (end of quire 21), and 154v (end of quire 22). Two minute alphabets on f. 155. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 1-158v

Author: John Lydgate

Title: Fall of Princes

Language(s): English

Incipit: //This sciences were called liberal/ Only of fredam fraunchise & liberte

Explicit: Of Intrusioun began first this quarelle/ Ageyn Romeyns when that he gan rebelle//

Notes: IMEV 1168. H. Bergen, ed., *Lydgate's Fall of Princes*. EETS es 121-124 (London 1924); this manuscript described in 4:99-103. It lacks 10 quires and 17 bifolia with loss of the following verses: I.1-4256; I.4656-4914; I.5734-5992; II.1401-2450; II.2850-3108; III.1457-1715; IV.561-812; IV.3305-4066 and V.1-259; V.680-945; V.1492-1621; V.2138-2249; V.2509-2613; VI.1-126; VI.1485-2275; VIII.386-1148; VIII.1415-2191; VIII.2318-IX.3628. What was probably the second of the four quires missing at the beginning has been identified as London, Brit. Lib., Sloane 2452; see A. S. G. Edwards, "The Huntington Fall of Princes and Sloane 2452," *Manuscripta* 16 (1972) 37-40; it contains I.1023-2100.

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